



Indiana Department of Natural Resources

Start Summer Home Improvements On Time. Apply for Permits Online.

As the weather has grown warmer, your “things to do” list has probably grown longer. If your list includes improvements to property on an Indiana lake or waterway, like placing fill in a low area or putting up a seawall, the process has just gotten easier! You can apply for your permit online at **www.DNR.IN.gov** and get your project started quickly.

According to Indiana state law, homeowners and businesses planning construction along waterways and lakes must obtain a water construction permit from the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR). This helps ensure building projects do not increase flooding; harm fish, wildlife, and plant life; threaten natural resources or the scenic beauty of lakes; or endanger people or their property. Permit applications for the following types of projects along state waterways and lakes can be submitted online:

- **Projects in Public Freshwater Lakes**
- **Ditch Reconstruction**
- **Construction in a Floodway**
- **Projects in Navigable Waters**
- **Sand or Gravel Removal**
- **Construction of Access Channels**

Contractors undertaking projects on Indiana’s waterways and lakes have been able to submit online permit applications since 1997 through their *accessIndiana* subscriber accounts. This month, the system was upgraded to allow homeowners to submit online permit applications and pay their permit fees online using an American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or Visa credit card or debit card.

“The majority of applicants for water permits are homeowners, who only apply for a permit once or twice in their lives,” commented John Goss. “To serve our customers better, we updated our online system to allow homeowners and businesses to use their credit cards to apply for water construction permits online.”

Before the introduction of the online service, homeowners and businesses had to contact DNR to request a water construction permit application or download an application from the DNR Web site and fill out the form by hand. Then, DNR staff had to confirm that the water construction permit applicant filled in all required information correctly, enter the information into the DNR database, and request any missing information from the applicant before the application could be subjected to public review and comment.

With the DNR Water Construction Permit online service, homeowners and businesses can save up to four weeks in processing time. They can fill out the water construction permit application online at **www.DNR.IN.gov**, completing all required fields before his/her permit application is accepted. The Web service also includes easy-to-understand directions and an online manual filled with definitions and technical assistance to assist users with the application process. Since the online service prevents filing errors and automatically enters application information into the DNR database, online water permit applications can usually be submitted for public review and comment more quickly than paper-based filings. This saves homeowners and businesses time and money.

To apply for a permit online, visit http://www.in.gov/dnr/water/permits/permit_application/index.html.

If you have questions about filing an application on-line, please contact the Division of Water at 317-232-4160 or toll-free at 877-928-3755.

For more information about DNR construction permits, visit **www.DNR.IN.gov**.